

Community resources

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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 09CAIRO325, CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVISTS OFFER MIXED ASSESSMENT OF THE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT REF: CAIRO 246 Classified By: Ambassador Margaret Scobey for reason 1.4 (d).

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#09CAIRO325**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
09CAIRO325	2009-02-23 12:59	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Cairo

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.almasryalyoum.com/node/466622>

VZCZCXRO9816
RR RUEHROV
DE RUEHEG #0325/01 0541259
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 231259Z FEB 09
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1703
INFO RUEHKK/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 000325

SIPDIS

FOR NEA/ELA AND DRL/NESCA
NSC FOR PASCUAL AND KUCHTA-HELBLING

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/23/2029

TAGS: PGOV PHUM KDEM KCOR ECON EFIN EG

SUBJECT: CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVISTS OFFER MIXED ASSESSMENT OF THE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT REF: CAIRO 246 Classified By: Ambassador Margaret Scobey f
1.(C) Summary: During a February 11 tea with the Ambassador, civil society activists provided their views on the current state of political lib

2.(C) Hossam Bahgat hopes for a return to the 2003-5 period when the GOE opened the political space to allow the growth of independent media an

3.(C) Bahgat criticized State Security's influence over the bureaucracy and civil society, asserting that SSIS controls faculty appointments an

4.(C) Hisham Kassem, president of the Egyptian Organization for Human Rights and founder of the independent daily "Al-Masry Al-Youm," said that

5.(C) Kassem predicted that information technology would change the Egyptian media over the next ten years, noting that there will soon be 20 m

6.(C) Kassem asserted that State Security undermines civil society by, for example, preventing NGOs from leasing office space. According to Kss

7.(C) Engi Haddad, President of the Afro-Egyptian Organization for Human Rights, cited corruption as a major impediment to reform. She contende

8.(C) Haddad's organization is trying to block the government's potential privatization vouchers plan, out of concern over corruption. Under th

9.(C) Haddad called for activists to build apolitical civil society organizations, focusing on development and charity to claim this space from

0 02/23/2009 7601 PGOV,PHUM,KDEM,KCOR,ECON,EFIN,EG

CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVISTS OFFER MIXED ASSESSMENT OF THE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

During a February 11 tea with the Ambassador, civil society activists provided their views on the current state of political liberalization. Hc